

RemarksStatus and Disposition of Claims

In the Final Action mailed January 7, 2010, the Office considered claims 3-5 and 7-12.

In this paper, Applicants amend claims 3, 5, 9, and 12, and cancel claims 4 and 11 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein. Claims 3, 5, 7-10, and 12 remain pending and under consideration with this amendment.

Specification

The Action objects to the specification for informalities. In paragraph [0039], the Examiner suggests that “volume ratio” should be changed to “weight ratio” based on inconsistencies with the remainder of the specification. However, in response, Applicants note that it is paragraph [0043] that is actually incorrect, and with this amendment, Applicants correct the proper paragraph.

In paragraph [0040], the Examiner suggests that “alkali etching” should be changed to “acid etching,” and that an unnecessary “an” should be deleted. With this amendment, Applicants amend paragraph [0040] as suggested by the Examiner.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Action rejects claims 3-5 and 7-12 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over JP 2003-100701 to Masafumi et al. in view of JP 2002-203823 to Takashi et al.

With respect to claim 3, the Action asserts that Masafumi et al. does not teach the acid etching is performed by a spin-coating method but that Takashi et al. teaches a similar process wherein an acid etching is performed by a spin-coating method. (Page 4, lines 2-7.)

In response, Applicants respectfully disagree with the rejection and submit that Takashi et al. does not disclose a spin-coating process as presently claimed. Applicants submit herewith

a verified English translation of Takashi et al. Applicants respectfully request that the Office consider the verified English translation of Takashi et al. and reconsider the rejection. If the Office maintains the rejection, Applicants respectfully request that the next communication specifically point to the disclosure in Takashi et al. that supports the Office's assertions.

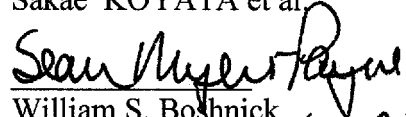
Still further, with respect to claim 4, the Action asserts that Masafumi et al. teaches providing the front surface with a mirror-polish and the rear surface with a slight-polish, referring to claim 7 and paragraph [0008]. In response, Applicants respectfully disagree with the rejection and submit that Masafumi et al. fails to disclose a rear surface slight-polishing process between the etching process and the front surface mirror-polishing process. (Applicants note that the elements of claims 4 and 11 are incorporated into claim 3.) If the Office maintains the rejection, Applicants respectfully request that the next communication specifically point to the disclosure in Masafumi et al. that supports the Office's assertions.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing remarks and amendments, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the objections and rejections of record and allowance of the claims. If the Examiner has any questions or wishes to discuss this application further, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

The Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 19-0089 any fee necessary to ensure consideration of the submitted materials.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sakae KOYATA et al.


William S. Boshnick
Reg. No. 44,550 42,920

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GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C.
1950 Roland Clarke Place
Reston, VA 20191
(703) 716-1191

Enclosure: Verified English Translation of JP 2002-203823 to Takashi et al.